

# WHAT THE BOYS ARE DOING

Twenty-seven local scouts have been awarded merit badges during the past week, according to an announcement made by Scout Commissioner Martin yesterday. The awards were as follows:

Edward C. Chapin, Troop No. 22, personal health, public health.

James Grant, Troop No. 32, personal health, public health.

Conrad Livingston, Troop No. 29, signaling.

Ferdinand Hoffman, Troop No. 36, life saving, freemasonry.

Harry Chamberlain, Troop No. 39, handicraft.

Yves Kich, Troop No. 6, signaling.

Edward Richardson, Troop No. 24, cooking.

Frederic Bassett, Troop No. 39, cooking, handicraft, masonry.

Hugh Johnston, Troop No. 51, swimming, life saving.

W. N. Young, Troop No. 51, life saving, life saving.

W. Terrill Henderson, Troop No. 47, life saving.

Alfred Sanders, Troop No. 25, life saving.

Julian Steward, Troop No. 8, life saving.

D. E. Gates, Troop No. 51, life saving.

Edgar May, Troop No. 51, life saving.

R. B. Wilson, Troop No. 47, handicraft, carpentry.

Robert Carl, Troop No. 51, carpentry.

Edward Chapin, Troop No. 32, freemasonry.

Harry B. Nelson, Troop No. 29, handicraft.

T. T. Smallwood, Troop No. 32, physical development.

F. H. Livermore, Troop No. 47, interpreting.

A. Sanders, Troop No. 25, interpreting.

Robert Coville, Troop No. 39, marksmanship.

B. B. Wilson, Troop No. 47, handicraft, carpentry.

William F. Kelly, Troop No. 24, marksmanship.

News From the Troops.

Communications have been received from troop scribers as follows:

**Troop 5.**

"Despite the bad weather which occurred last Saturday many members of Troop No. 5 were out early in the day selling tags until they were recalled when Tag day was postponed. The officers of the troop are renewing their efforts to have as many on hand Saturday as possible. It is expected that the scoutmaster and several patrol leaders who were unable to attend last Saturday will be on hand next Saturday."

Saturday before last Troop No. 2 went to its camp grounds in Randle Highlands and had a tracking contest. It took about four hours to go over the trail, on which were seven messages.

At the end of the first trail Scouts Miller Williams and Mitchell ended in a tie. Scouts Smallwood, Miller and Williams finished the second half of the trail about the same time, but all delivered the last message incorrectly, so the trail will be tried again in the near future. The prize offered by our scoutmaster was a leather bound scout diary.

William Samphurst and Arnon Pinsky passed Troop test at the last meeting of the troop. It has also been decided that hereafter the troop will have its meetings in the afternoon Saturdays at 2 o'clock at a new camp site which is to be selected by a committee composed of Scouts Scott, Williams and Turner.

"Scouts Turner and Williams have completed a bridge and back which was one of the requirements for the pioneering merit badge. The shack is made of pine and is capable of accommodating about six boys, while the bridge is fifteen feet long and will hold over 500 pounds."

**Troop 11.**

"We have been very busy with rehearsals for our minstrel show, but not too busy to take a dandy hike. We visited Fort Carroll and Oxon run, where we had the cooking test for many members of the troop. We were accompanied on this trip by 'Steamboat Bill' and W. S. Nicholson, scout commissioner of Frostburg, Md."

"Our minstrel show was given Thursday night. Judging by the laughs which we produced, it was a howling success. Our chief men can't be beat. One of them weighs about 240 pounds and the other is skinny."

"As a souvenir we gave a rose to each lady in the audience. C. F. Purdy was the headliner of the vaudeville, and he is some top liner. We also gave a demonstration of scout work."

**Troop 43.**

"Troop 43 is being reorganized by Mr. Kidwell of Troop 24. The troop meetings are held in the Alliance."

The following order for the presentation of target medals and prizes and service medals was issued at brigade headquarters yesterday:

"The prizes won in the recent competitions and the insignia earned by members of the National Guard, District of Columbia, for qualification in small arms practice during the 1914 season will be presented in the hall of the Center Market National Guard Armory Thursday, April 22, 1915."

"Successful teams and individual winners of prizes, insignia, service medals and bars, and officers designated to receive service ribbons for their commands will report to Lieut. Col. Glendie B. Young, 1st Infantry, at the drill hall not later than 8:15 p.m. on the date specified, will be formed by him, and will be under his command until dismissed at the conclusion of the ceremonies. Dress uniform and side arms will be worn."

"Company C, 2d Infantry, is detailed as guard for the ceremonies provided for in this order. The commanding officer of Company C, 2d Infantry, will report to Lieut. Col. Glendie B. Young, 1st Infantry, for instructions."

"Immediately after the award of the prizes and insignia mentioned above, there will be presented to the officers and men entitled to the same service medals and service ribbons in the order named. Service medals and bars will be presented to the individual officers and men."

"Service medals and bars will be presented in the following order: Twenty-five year medals—Maj. Charles B. Luce, medical department, Color Sergeant Charles W. Moore, 1st Infantry."

"Twenty-year bars—Maj. George L. Tait, 1st Infantry; First Lieut. W. Lawrence Hazard, 1st Infantry; Private H. Miller, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion."

"Fifteen-year bars—Commander Joseph A. Dempf, Naval Battalion; Maj. Joseph F. Hodgson, 1st Infantry; Maj. Alexander Summers, 2d Infantry; Capt. John W. Oehmann, 1st Infantry; Capt. Lucien B. Ernest, 2d Infantry; Capt. Clarence C. H. Davis, 1st Separate Battalion; Second Lieut. Charles M. Agnew, 1st Separate Battalion; First Sergeant Robert C. Shadle, Company D, 1st Separate Battalion; Q. M. Sergeant George L. Dietz, Company M, 2d Infantry; Sergeant Francis J. Ennis, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant Anthony G. W. Gaines, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Corp. Charles E. Carter, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Corp. James E. Norris, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Corp. Thomas H. Miller, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Artillery Joseph D. Robinson, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion."

"Ten-year medals—Capt. Theodore B. Heap, 2d Infantry; Capt. Charles H. Howker, medical department; Capt. Claude Burlingame, 2d Infantry; Capt. Harry C. Klotz, 2d Infantry; Capt. Thomas Brown, 1st Infantry; Second Lieut. Charles D. Smith, 2d Infantry; Sergeant (first class) James M. McDaniel, Field Hospital; First Sergeant Charles E. Hutchinson, Company E, 2d Infantry; Sergeant Cadwallader C. Dyer, Company

F, 1st Infantry; Sergeant William M. Hatch, Company D, 2d Infantry; Sergeant Charles Lomack, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant James E. Sanford, Hospital Corps; Private Jerry R. Johnston, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Private John Lewis, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Private Houston Warren, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion."

"Nine-year bars—Capt. John C. Rooney, 2d Infantry; First Lieut. John E. Smith, 1st Separate Battalion; Second Lieut. West A. Hamilton, 1st Separate Battalion; First Sergeant James W. Wade, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant Henry A. Brown, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Constable Henry C. Weeden, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion."

"Six-year medals—Capt. William A. Penney, 1st Infantry; First Lieut. Joseph E. Eldridge, 2d Infantry; First Lieut. Joseph C. Sweeney, 2d Infantry; Ensign William E. Hoer, Naval Battalion; Second Lieut. Henry F. Rees, 1st Infantry; Drum Major John W. King, 1st Infantry; First Sergeant, First Sergeant Milton J. Landvoigt, Company F, 1st Infantry; First Sergeant, First Sergeant Lewis M. Whip, Company E, 2d Infantry; Quartermaster Sergeant, Gail T. J. Edwards, 1st Infantry; Sergeant, First Sergeant, William E. Hardy, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant, First Sergeant, Frank R. Scott, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant, First Sergeant, Ellis R. King, Company D, 1st Infantry; Sergeant, First Sergeant, Leonard, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant, First Sergeant, H. Stull, Company H, 1st Infantry; Sergeant, First Sergeant, Washington, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Sergeant, First Sergeant, George H. Jones, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Corp. Alfred Lawson, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Corp. George H. Jones, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Private First Class Herbert C. George, Hospital Corps; Private John B. Bruce, Company A, 1st Separate Battalion; Private James H. Johnson, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Private John C. Koonig, Company 1st Infantry; Private Samuel H. Palmer, Company B, 1st Separate Battalion; Private William E. Turner, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion; Private Edward Turner, Company C, 1st Separate Battalion."

"Sergeant John W. Payne, Company M, 2d Infantry, is announced as a 'distinguished marksman.'"

"Enlisted men to whom the ten-year medal (class A) is awarded by this order will, when receiving this medal, turn in the insignia of class B. Present holders of decorations of class A, who also have a decoration of class B, will turn in the insignia of these headquarters without delay."

"Government employees receiving insignia for qualification in small arms practice, prizes, service medals and bars; those officers designated to receive service medals and bars for their commands, and officers and enlisted men who are placed on duty in compliance with this order February 25, 1914, will be furnished certificate of service from 7 o'clock p.m. until midnight that date."

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Maj. Joseph C. Castner, U. S. A., who next June is to take up the duties of adjutant general of the District of Columbia militia, has had quite a career in the United States Army, as is evidenced by the following taken from a paper in New Jersey. Maj. Castner is a native of that state. It says:

"New Jersey has some men in the regular army who have served with great credit, and some of the officers who are in the service have displayed exceptional ability in different lines. A recent instance of a Jerseyman being advanced to more important duty is that of Maj. Joseph C. Castner, whose home is in New Brunswick. Graduated from Rutgers College in 1901, Castner was appointed as a second lieutenant. At the time the Spanish-American war broke out Castner was in Alaska, where he had many interesting and perilous adventures. His party was saved from starvation at one time by eating mule meat, and that it finally got back to civilization was largely due to the pluck of the young Jersey officer."

As soon as he returned to the states Castner was sent to the Philippines, where he did some splendid work with the scouts. In 1912 he was commissioned a major, having already served as a captain under Gen. Lawton, and now has been assigned as adjutant general in charge of the National Guard of the District of Columbia, an important assignment, yet a tribute to his ability, since it is considered a difficult job to handle. The father of Maj. Castner, who is now a lieutenant with distinction, and as long as he lived he was proud of Joe, as he is known among friends of his boyhood days."

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To increase the efficiency of the local National Guard a schedule of drills has been mapped out by Maj. C. Fred Cook, adjutant general, which the commanders of the various companies will be required to follow in instructing the

members of their commands. It was sent out with a view to securing uniformity through the command.

"The following schedule of drill," says the order, "will go into effect at once for all companies of infantry."

"Manual of arms, five minutes; bayonet exercises and bayonet fencing, ten minutes; extended order, by commands and signals, including fire direction and fire control, close order, five minutes."

"This schedule is prepared with a view of securing uniformity throughout the command. It will be changed from time to time, securing a progressive course preparatory to field training in camp."

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The 1st Battery, Field Artillery, N. G. D. C., is scheduled to go to Tobyhann, Pa., for its annual encampment July 17 and to return to the city July 28, according to an announcement made at the battery headquarters Thursday night.

The battery is scheduled to engage in a two-day practice march, using the equipment of the regular field artillery battery at Fort Meyer, Va., April 21 and 22. The battery will leave here Saturday afternoon and will engage in some field artillery problems in Virginia. It will camp in dog camp the night and early Sunday morning will start further maneuvers.

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On the dock, to be painted and overhauled, are a speed boat which Commander Dempf announced he would use as his barge during the summer, a motor dory, some parts of which are to be rebuilt under the direction of Whiston Craydon, and the whale boats, which will be painted. All this painting and repairing will be completed before tonight, and Thursday night when the battalion reports for drill, they will be launched.

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The following Sunday it is expected that Commander Dempf will order all boats away on practice drills. The Sylvia will run down the river for a practice cruise, while a couple of the divisions will take the small boats up the river and participate in small boat drills and practice in landing an armed force.

When the battleship Rhode Island reached Bermuda last year with the District naval militia aboard the commanding officer ordered all boats overboard for board and signal drill. The local militia had not had much practice in this kind of work, as was shown by the manner in which they carried out the signals from the ship, and Commander Dempf is determined that they shall not repeat the blunders this year. It is for this reason that he has ordered the division officers to take their men up the river as often as possible, with a view to giving them training in reading the signals and in maneuvering the boats.

The command of the season so that the small boats can be used also will help to give more men training than is possible during the winter months, when the Sylvia made cruises Sunday.

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